Converting rotten and low cost foodgrains into alcohol

†4685. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether authorities in CSIR have proposed conversion of rotten and low cost foodgrains into alcohol;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study regarding economic viability of such conversion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and likely benefits from such move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Starvation deaths in Rajasthan

4686. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of the Government of India spending huge amount on stocking surplus grain *i.e.* 48.2 million tonnes in 2002-03, far in excess of buffer norm of 25 million tonnes, 15 starvation deaths were reported in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government have any planning to prevent such deaths this year and what strategy have Government been considering to tackle this; and

(c) how Government propose to monitor implementation of this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Government of Rajasthan has reported that no starvation death has occurred in the State.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.